

U.S. Application No.: 09/762,847  
AMENDMENT F AND REQUEST FOR A TELEPHONE INTERVIEW

ATTORNEY DOCKET: 3968.062

IN THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently amended) A method of imparting odor to an odorless combustible gas, said method comprising:

adding to said odorless combustible gas ~~a sulfur-free~~  
an odorizing composition comprising:

- A. at least one acrylic C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>-alkyl ester,
- B. at least one N compound with a boiling point of from 90 to 210°C and a molecular weight of from 80 to 160 and optionally
- C. an antioxidant,

wherein components A and B are added to said combustible gas in an amount effective to act as a warning signal to warn of presence of said combustible gas in an enclosed space before an ignition limit of said combustible gas in said enclosed space is reached, and

wherein said odorizing composition is sulfur-free.

2. (Previously presented) The method according to Claim 1, wherein at least two different acrylic C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>-alkyl esters A are added.

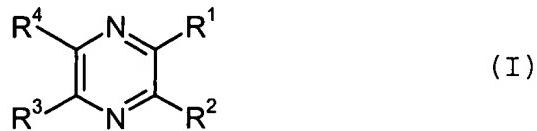
3. (Previously presented) The method according to Claim 1, wherein a mixture of two different acrylic C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkyl esters is added as component A.

4. (Canceled)

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5. (Previously presented) The method according to Claim 1, wherein a compound of the formula



is component B, where

R<sup>1</sup> to R<sup>4</sup>, independently of one another, are hydrogen or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl; and

wherein component B is chosen from 2-methylpyrazine, 2,3-dimethylpyrazine, 2,6-dimethylpyrazine, 2,3,5-trimethylpyrazine, tetramethylpyrazine, 2-ethylpyrazine, 2,3-diethylpyrazine, 5,2-methylethylpyrazine, 2,3-methylethylpyrazine, 5,2,3-methyldiethylpyrazine, 3,5,2-dimethylethylpyrazine, or 3,6,3-dimethylethylpyrazine.

6. (Previously presented) The method according to Claim 1, wherein component B is used in an amount of from 1 to 100 parts by weight per 1,000 parts by weight of A.

7. (Previously presented) The method according to Claim 1, wherein component C is used in an amount of from 0.01 to 5 parts by weight per 1,000 parts by weight of A.

8. (Cancelled)

9. (Currently amended) ~~An~~—odorless A combustible gas comprising:

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1) an odorless gas; and

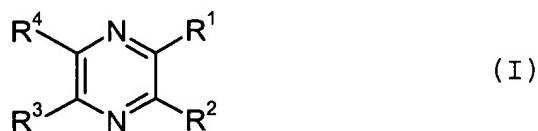
2) a warning signal comprising a sulfur free an odorizing composition comprising:

- A. at least one acrylic C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>-alkyl ester,
- B. at least one N compound with a boiling point of from 90 to 210°C and a molecular weight of from 80 to 160 and optionally
- C. an antioxidant,

wherein components A and B are added to said combustible gas in an amount effective to act as a warning signal to warn of presence of said combustible gas in an enclosed space before an ignition limit of said combustible gas in said enclosed space is reached

wherein said odorizing composition is sulfur-free.

10. (Previously presented) The gas according to Claim 9, wherein at least two different acrylic C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>-alkyl esters are added.
11. (Previously presented) The gas according to Claim 9, wherein a mixture of two different acrylic C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkyl esters are added as component A.
12. (Canceled)
13. (Previously presented) The gas according to Claim 9, wherein said at least one N compound is of the formula:



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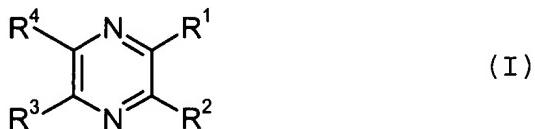
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wherein R<sup>1</sup> to R<sup>4</sup>, independently of one another, are hydrogen or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl.

14. (Previously presented) The gas according to Claim 9, wherein said at least one N compound is present in an amount of from 1 to 100 parts by weight per 1,000 parts by weight of said Component A.
15. (Previously presented) The gas according to Claim 9, wherein at least said antioxidant is used in an amount of from 0.01 to 5 parts by weight per 1,000 parts by weight of said Component A.
16. (Previously presented) The method according to Claim 1, wherein said odor imparting components that are added to said combustible gas are non-corrosive.
17. (Previously presented) The gas according to Claim 9, wherein said odor imparting components that are added to said combustible gas are non-corrosive.
18. (Currently amended) ~~A method of odorizing an odorless combustible gas by adding to said odorless combustible gas a sulfur free an odorizing composition comprising:~~
  - A. ~~at least one acrylic C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>-alkyl ester,~~
  - B. ~~at least one N compound with a boiling point of from 90 to 210°C and a molecular weight of from 80 to 160,~~  
The gas according to Claim 1, wherein said at least one N compound is of the formula:

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wherein R<sup>1</sup> to R<sup>4</sup>, independently of one another, are hydrogen or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl, and optionally  
C. an antioxidant.

19. (Currently amended) A method of odorizing an odorless combustible gas by adding to said odorless combustible gas a sulfur-free an odorizing composition comprising:

- A. at least one acrylic C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>-alkyl ester,  
B. at least one N compound of the formula:



wherein R<sup>1</sup> to R<sup>4</sup>, independently of one another, are hydrogen or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl, and optionally  
C. an antioxidant,  
wherein said odorizing composition is sulfur-free.

20. (Previously presented) The method according to Claim 19, wherein components A and B are added to said combustible gas in an amount effective to act as a warning signal to warn of presence of said combustible gas in an enclosed space before

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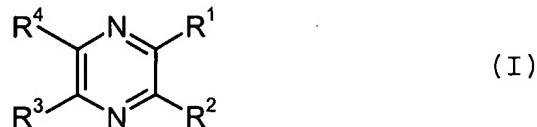
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an ignition limit of said combustible gas in said enclosed space is reached.

21. (Currently amended) ~~An odorless combustible gas comprising:~~  
~~a sulfur free~~ ~~an odorizing composition comprising:~~

- A. ~~at least one acrylic C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>-alkyl ester,~~
- B. ~~at least one N compound with a boiling point of from 90 to 210°C and a molecular weight of from 80 to 160,~~

The gas according to Claim 9, wherein said at least one N compound is of the formula:



wherein R<sup>1</sup> to R<sup>4</sup>, independently of one another, are hydrogen or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl, and optionally

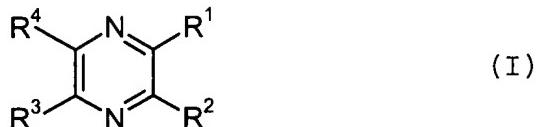
- C. an antioxidant.

22. (Currently amended) An odorless combustible gas comprising:  
1) an odorless gas; and  
2) ~~a warning signal comprising a sulfur free~~ an odorizing composition comprising:

- A. ~~at least one acrylic C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>-alkyl ester,~~
- B. wherein at least one N compound is of the formula:

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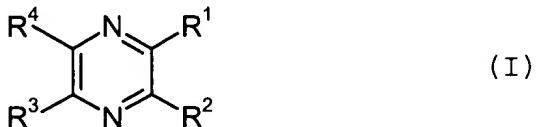
wherein R<sup>1</sup> to R<sup>4</sup>, independently of one another, are hydrogen or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl, and optionally

C. an antioxidant

wherein said odorizing composition is sulfur-free.

23. (Previously presented) The gas according to Claim 22, wherein components A and B are added to said combustible gas in an amount effective to act as a warning signal to warn of presence of said combustible gas in an enclosed space before an ignition limit of said combustible gas in said enclosed space is reached.
24. (Currently amended) An ~~odorless combustible gas sulfur free~~ odorizing agent suitable for imparting odor to an odorless combustion gas, the odorizing agent comprising:

- A. at least one acrylic C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl acrylate,
- B. at least one compound of the formula:



wherein R<sup>1</sup> to R<sup>4</sup>, independently of one another, are hydrogen or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl, and optionally

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C. an antioxidant  
wherein said odorizing agent is sulfur-free.

25. (Previously presented) A method of imparting odor to an odorless combustible gas, said method comprising:

    adding to said odorless combustible gas

    A. a mixture of two acrylic C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>-alkyl esters, wherein the weight ratio of the two acrylic esters is 9:1 to 1:9,

    B. at least one N compound with a boiling point of from 90 to 210°C and a molecular weight of from 80 to 160 and optionally

    C. an antioxidant,

    wherein components A and B are added to said combustible gas in an amount effective to act as a warning signal to warn of presence of said combustible gas in an enclosed space before an ignition limit of said combustible gas in said enclosed space is reached.

26. (Currently amended) ~~An—odorless~~ A combustible gas comprising:

    1) an odorless gas; and

    2) ~~a warning signal comprising~~ an odorizing composition comprising:

    A. a mixture of two acrylic C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>-alkyl esters, wherein the weight ratio of the two acrylic esters is 9:1 to 1:9,

    B. at least one N compound with a boiling point of from 90 to 210°C and a molecular weight of from 80 to 160 and

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optionally

C. an antioxidant,

wherein components A and B are added to said combustible gas in an amount effective to act as a warning signal to warn of presence of said combustible gas in an enclosed space before an ignition limit of said combustible gas in said enclosed space is reached, and wherein said components A and B are substantially sulfur-free.